



PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Monday, July 9, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Public Works

Conference Room

Call to Order

Roll Call

Adopt Agenda

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2ND, MAY 7TH, AND JUNE 4TH MEETING MINUTES

PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

DOGS AT SOCCER COMPLEX

Other Business

Adjourn



Park & Rec - Regular

Meeting Date: 07/09/2012

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF APRIL 2ND, MAY 7TH, AND JUNE 4TH MEETING MINUTES

Attachments

APRIL2ND

MAYJUNE

COON RAPIDS PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2012

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order on April 2, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the Public Works Conference Room.

Members Present: Commissioners Tim Arntson, Mary Lou Hecht, Mike Jacobson, Gen Sand, Ryan McAlpine, and Neal Livermore.

Members Absent: Commissioner Steven Head.

Also Present: Gregg Engle, Parks Supervisor and Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator.

1. ROLL CALL

Gregg Engle acknowledged roll call.

2. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 2, 2012 AGENDA

Commissioner Livermore requested to discuss drainage at Moor Park under Other Business.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JACOBSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCALPINE, TO APPROVE THE APRIL 2, 2012 AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 5, 2012 MINUTES

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HECHT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, TO APPROVE THE MARCH 5, 2012 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parks Master Plan update.

Commissioner Livermore stated that a question was asked about the geographical division during the workshop. Mr. Gunderson stated that the areas are based on wards which are approximately similar sized and have one destination park. He stated that a radius was not considered. He commented that the approximate distance is about one mile around the park.

Commissioner Livermore stated that there was a concern that the east side of the city was being left out as not having a community park. This is near Lions Park. He explained

that this is changeable as the process goes forward. Mr. Gunderson stated that they showed the plan to Council so they were aware of it.

Commissioner Livermore stated that a Councilmember asked for an example of a park. He stated that they pointed to Riverview Park for consideration. He stated that this was mentioned as they have a building, basketball and tennis courts but lack baseball fields. Mr. Gunderson stated that he and Mr. Engle did a draft of a map.

Mr. Engle stated that this showed amenities of the parks. Commissioner Livermore explained that items addressed were the referendum and financing options. He stated that they did not take into consideration that the cost would be different without a building in each location.

Chairman Arntson reiterated that the change is from using the parks as they stand to using regional areas of the city.

Commissioner Sand asked if enough land is available for the social centers. Mr. Engle stated that there is room in the parks of Riverview, Crooked Lake, and Pheasant Ridge Park for example. He commented that the building would be similar to what is at Lions Park with a meeting room and bathrooms. It would be a four season building.

Mr. Gunderson stated that the building will seat around 60 people.

Chairman Arntson expressed concern that the smaller parks will not receive updates or attention because the neighborhood centers will be the focus. He expressed concern with the task force. He stated that he does not want the Park Commission to have their focus taken away from their responsibilities. He expressed concern that a plan B be created by the task force so there is a backup plan. He expressed support for the vision of the neighborhood centers and stated that he likes the idea. He commented that the Park Commission could be responsible for the plan.

Commissioner Livermore stated that the Park Commission has been in a holding position waiting on a decision to go forward and the referendum to be decided. Chairman Arntson stated that he is concerned that the task force will have the same issues as the community center in that there is a lot of enthusiasm and things do not get completed.

Mr. Gunderson stated that on April 10 he, Greg and consultants will meet. Commissioner Livermore stated that the task force will be creating the plan that will be used to sell the idea of the referendum.

Chairman Arntson asked about what is next. Mr. Gunderson stated that there will only be around three meetings with the task force. He stated that there will be updates for the Park Commission who will ultimately give approval for what happens.

Commissioner Jacobson explained that he would like the maintenance costs to be considered when focusing on the development of the social centers. He asked where there is a copy of the current plan. Mr. Gunderson offered to send this out to Commissioner Jacobson and Commissioner Livermore. He stated that Council will finalize the task force which will have its first meeting in May.

Mr. Gunderson stated that there is confusion whether Brauer and Associates is providing direction on what should be in parks or whether the task force is providing this information in the planning. He suggested that there be work between Brauer and the task force to make decisions on this. He stated that Brauer will provide information on what the trends are.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sunrise Pond Park Shelter.

Mr. Engle explained that the cheapest price would be \$28,000 to \$29,000 for a two-tiered roof shelter. He stated that engineering has asked to hold off for a bit on the project.

Chairman Arntson asked about the budget. Mr. Engle stated that there is \$100,000 available to pay for the shelter from.

Commissioner Jacobson asked if there is electric and lighting in the shelter. Mr. Engle stated that it is stubbed in but will not be provided. He explained that this park is near the neighborhood but he is not sure what security issues will arise because it is near the high school. He explained that on Saturday night the window and lights were shot out in Wintercrest Park. He added that electric will be put in at Sunrise Pond shelter if needed.

Mr. Gunderson stated that the process is in place for moving forward on this project but they are being asked to hold off as it may tie in to the new master plan.

Mr. Engle stated that Thorpe Park has the type of building that should be considered for the social centers.

B. Arbor Day Celebration April 27.

Mr. Engle stated that the City Forester does a good job with forestry and the work he has done with cleanup after storms. He stated that all of the trees are sold. He reported that for Sunrise Pond they will tree spade in some trees. He shared the news that a \$20,000 grant was received which will be used for two inch trees at Sunrise Pond. He confirmed that the trees are bare root and will require a lot of watering.

B. Tennis Court Update/Removal.

Mr. Engle stated that he met with five different excavating companies about removing the tennis courts. He stated that he was instructed to take the nets down from the tennis courts and put up a sign that they are closed. He explained that they will not be taking out the tennis courts at this time as they are to wait until decisions are made about the new master plan. He explained that they will be waiting to see the outcome of the master plan as they have made decisions on removing some of the courts.

Commissioner McAlpine expressed interest in spending budgeted money so they do not lose it. He suggested finding repair projects or working on trails as this work is ongoing.

Mr. Gunderson stated that he has been with Coon Rapids for five years now. He stated that work on the tennis courts has long been needed. He stated that as there is much to do a referendum would be a way to pay for it.

Mr. Engle stated that he has been with Coon Rapids for 11 years and the tennis courts have been listed every year for improvements. He stated that at Lions Park the tennis courts will need to be torn out in four to five years. He stated that there are some playgrounds that will need to be removed.

Commissioner McAlpine stated that he attended a new normal meeting where they discussed referendums that were obtained at various cities. He explained that they were told that Coon Rapids needed a plan to pay for parks that is not year to year. He stated that the trails and connections need to have stronger presentation. He stated that the social centers need to be connected in to the trails. He reported that it was identified that there is a lapse in some of the trails because they do not continuously connect.

Mr. Gunderson stated that St. Paul is going away from neighborhood centers and going toward regional centers. He stated that instead of five neighborhood centers they have one huge regional center with larger amenities. He explained that this can be discussed with Brauer and the task force. He asked if they want to improve Coon Rapids or if they want to be a good neighbor and be a regional center that attracts people.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Livermore asked if there have been drainage improvements at Moor Park around the pavilion area. Mr. Engle stated that there have not been improvements yet as there is restoration work being done. He stated that more trees will be going in. He explained that drainage moves the water from the soccer field right to the problem area. He suggested putting up a berm so the water does not collect in the problem area.

Commissioner Livermore asked if tiling could be done to collect and drain the water underground. Mr. Engle stated that funds are not available for this now but the goal is to get the water toward the parking lot. He stated that a rain garden by the parking lot is being sought.

Commissioner McAlpine stated that a new trend is to use sand for drainage. He suggested considering this. Mr. Engle stated that they will work to address this water issue.

Chairman Arntson asked about a May meeting. Mr. Engle stated that typically they have a tour in May.

Chairman Arntson suggested touring the social centers. He suggested looking at the connections between the neighborhoods so the Commissioners on the task force have information for feedback. He asked staff if they have toured the trails recently. Mr. Engle stated that they have done their trail audits.

Mr. Gunderson suggested having a tour and inviting the Council to participate. Commissioner Livermore suggested at a minimum to invite the task force Council member to participate in the tour.

Mr. Gunderson suggested meeting next month for a tour at 5:30. Chairman Arntson suggested touring Sunrise Park.

Commissioner Livermore suggested visiting Springbrook trail into Kennedy Park along the railroad parks to the west. It was suggested to visit Moor Park, Kennedy Park and Sand Creek Park.

Mr. Engle stated that Mr. Gunderson will be hiring a recreation aide who can be available to visit the parks in the evenings and monitor usage for areas like the skate park. He stated that figures are available for ice rink use.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JACOBSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCALPINE, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregg Engle
Parks Supervisor

COON RAPIDS PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MONDAY, MAY 5, 2012

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was held offsite with tours of city parks. Parks visited were: Sand Creek Park, Lions Park, Al Flynn Park, and Hoover School.

Members Present: Commissioners Tim Arntson, Mary Lou Hecht, Mike Jacobson, Gen Sand, Steve Head, and Neal Livermore.

Members Absent: Commissioner Ryan McAlpine.

Also Present: Gregg Engle, Parks Supervisor, Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator. Jerry Koch, Council Member, Bruce Sanders, Council Member, Jon Driscoll, Recreational Aide, and Ben Wickland, Recreational Aide.

COON RAPIDS PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was held offsite at Sun Rise Pond Park.

Members Present: Commissioners Tim Arntson, Mary Lou Hecht, Gen Sand, and Neal Livermore.

Members Absent: Commissioner Ryan McAlpine, Steve Head, Mike Jacobson.

Also Present: Gregg Engle, Parks Supervisor, and Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator.

Commission gave maintenance and landscaping recommendations to Parks staff to be done within the parks budget.



Park & Rec - Regular

Meeting Date: 07/09/2012

Subject: PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

From: Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator

INFORMATION:

Old Business

Brauer & Associates will give an update of the master plan process. At this point the Brauer & Associates has conducted two public open houses, two taskforce meetings, and stakeholder meetings.



Park & Rec - Regular

Meeting Date: 07/09/2012

Subject: DOGS AT SOCCER COMPLEX

From: Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator

INFORMATION:

New Business

The Coon Rapids Soccer Association has requested action to be taken at the Soccer Complex with off leash dogs. The association has reported droppings from dogs and bitten children. The association is asking for signage to be installed reiterating the ordinance against off leash dogs. They have also asked for consideration of banning dogs altogether at the complex.
